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21 June 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Scientific Intelligence

SUBJECT : OSI Work Program as of 1 June 1968

1. We appreciate the opportunity to review the OSI work program. We are directly interested in several projects. Some of these may have potential for joint publication.

2. During the next fiscal year OSR plans extensive research on deployment trends and expenditure patterns in Soviet systems defending against low altitude attack. We suggest that OSI consider producing a reevaluation of the technical capabilities of the SA-3 missile system and of other systems used by the Soviets to combat the low altitude threat. Results of research by the two Offices on the entire low altitude problem could provide the basis for joint publication.

3. Further studies may be desirable in the following fields:

a. Studies on Soviet anti-satellite systems, even though speculative at this stage, would be timely and useful in connection with 11-3 kinds of questions.

b. It may be time to make at least a beginning on a study of Chinese ASW capabilities and potential.

c. Program Area 1 "Aeronautics", lists no current projects. A study on Chinese aeronautical R&D capabilities and programs would be useful. This would cover Chinese ability to modify existing aircraft types and develop original designs, and might include related work in metallurgy and electronics.

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d. Although the Tallinn missile system has been the subject of at least two previous studies, important gaps still exist in our knowledge of the system and further study during the next year probably would be desirable.

4. OSR has plans in FY 1969 to increase the amount of analytical work we have been doing on the economic implications of the Soviet resource commitment to R&D. We are redirecting the work of the Space Systems Branch, renaming it the Technical Resources Branch, and gathering within it the OSR analysts who have been investigating the expenditure implications of Soviet R&D efforts using different approaches. The research program for this Branch is still in a preliminary stage. I see the work of the Technical Resources Branch as the economic analysis complement to OSI and FMSAC in the R&D field as the other parts of OSR are in the weapons systems fields. A major consideration is to develop ways to utilize information on Soviet technical manpower resources engaged in R&D--an area where OSI regularly conducts research. We hope to be able to draw on the work of OSI in this area.

BRUCE C. CLARKE, Jr.
Director
Strategic Research

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